

## Message Text

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61  
ORIGIN AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 AID-05 ACDA-05 CIAE-00

INR-07 IO-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 EB-07 NRC-05 OES-03

DODE-00 FEA-01 ERDA-05 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

SS-15 COME-00 TRSE-00 AGR-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 H-02

/111 R

DRAFTED BY AF/W:WGRAMSAY:IW

APPROVED BY AF:JJBLAKE

AID-AA/AFR:DSBROWN

AFR/CWR:FGILBERT (INFO)

----- 044473

O R 192145Z SEP 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY NIAMEY IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY BAMAKO

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG, NG

SUBJECT: NIAMEY CONFERENCE ON URANIUM EXPLOITATION AND  
DEVELOPMENT

REFS: (A) STATE 211707, (B) NIAMEY 3570, (C) STATE 223824

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PARIS FOR MELONE

1. RICHARD BARHAM AND FREDERICK HUMPHREY OF ESSO EASTERN MET WITH DEPT ASST SECRETARY BLAKE (AF) AND AID ASST ADMINISTRATOR BROWN (AA/AFR) SEPTEMBER 18 TO DISCUSS ESSO EASTERN'S PARTICIPATION IN NIAMEY CONFERENCE ON URANIUM EXPLOITATION AND DEVELOPMENT AND USG REACTION TO RECENT NIGERIEN INITIATIVE (REF B).

2. BLAKE TOLD THEM THAT, WHILE RECOGNIZING OBVIOUS IMPORTANCE OF ENERGY RESOURCES TO US, HE DID NOT THINK USG COULD BECOME INVOLVED, ON QUID PRO QUO BASIS, IN DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS SUCH AS THAT NOW SUGGESTED BY GON. WAS ALSO NOTED THAT USG HAS BEEN AN ACTIVE CONTRIBUTOR TO NIGER'S ECONOMIC RESOURCES OVER PAST FEW YEARS, PARTICULARLY IN AREA DROUGHT RELIEF. BROWN ADDED THAT WITH RESPECT TO DROUGHT RELIEF IN SAHEL (INCLUDING NIGER) US WAS LARGEST SINGLE NATIONAL DONOR, CONTRIBUTING ABOUT 40 PERCENT OF

FOOD AND NON-FOOD AID (TOTALING APPROXIMATELY DOLS 180 MILLION THUS FAR). ADDITIONALLY, IN NIGER, WE HAVE ALREADY MOVED FROM STRICTLY DROUGHT RELIEF ASSISTANCE TO A FAIRLY SUBSTANTIAL BILATERAL DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM, WITH EMPHASIS IN AREAS OF AGRICULTURE, LIVESTOCK, EDUCATION AND MANPOWER. BROWN EXPLAINED THAT AID ALSO OPERATED UNDER TWO CONSTRAINTS IN REGARD TO INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS. CONGRESSIONAL LEGISLATION NOT ONLY INCLUDED NUMEROUS PRESCRIPTIVE STATEMENTS BUT FUNDING BILLS CONTAINED ONLY VERY SMALL ALLOCATIONS BY CATEGORIES WHICH COULD BE USED FOR INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS.

3. IN RESPONSE BLAKE'S QUESTION WHETHER ESSO EASTERN INTERPRETED MINISTER OF MINES' LETTER OF AUG 19 AS OPEN INVITATION TO ESSO EASTERN TO CONTRIBUTE, AS A COMPANY, TO NIGER'S ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, HUMPHREY REPLIED AFFIRMATIVELY. HE ADDED THAT COMPANY ALREADY HAS MADE SUCH CONTRIBUTION TO NIGERIEN WATER RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT, THROUGH U OF ARIZONA AS AGENT, IN AMOUNT OF ABOUT DOLS 500 THOUSAND.

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4. BARHAM ASKED IF USG COULD INFORM GON IN ADVANCE OF NIAMEY CONFERENCE OF ABOVE-MENTIONED LIMITATIONS ON OUR FREEDOM OF ACTION, SO THAT NIGERIENS WOULD NOT PROCEED TO CONFERENCE HARBORING ILLUSIONS. ALSO ASKED IF EMBASSY NIAMEY COULD BRIEF ESSO EASTERN'S REPRESENTATIVE JOHN BACKUS ON DETAILS AND TOTALS OF PRESENT USG ASSISTANCE TO NIGER SO THAT BACKUS COULD DRAW ON THIS BACKGROUND DATA INDEPENDENTLY IN HIS CONVERSATIONS WITH GON OFFICIALS, ON

"IF ASKED" BASIS. BLAKE AGREED BOTH THESE THINGS COULD BE DONE.

5. STATE AND AID ARE IN AGREEMENT THAT WE SHOULD ACT NOW TO ATTEMPT TO DISSUADE GON FROM TRYING TO ESTABLISH LINK-AGE BETWEEN FOREIGN INVESTMENTS IN URANIUM EXPLORATION AND FOREIGN DONOR AID LEVELS OR FOREIGN DONOR SUPPORT FOR SPECIFIC INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS. THEREFORE REQUEST EMBASSY APPROACH GON AT WHATEVER LEVEL YOU CONSIDER APPROPRIATE TO ACCOMPLISH THIS. DRAWING ON STATISTICAL DATA READILY AVAILABLE TO YOU, WISH YOU TO STATE THAT WE WOULD WANT GON TO LOOK AT AMERICAN CONTRIBUTION TO NIGER'S ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN ITS ENTIRETY AND TO RECOGNIZE THE CONSTRAINTS UNDER WHICH WE PROFFER OUR ASSISTANCE. WE WOULD LIKE TO BELIEVE THAT THEY WILL WEIGH CAREFULLY THESE US CONTRIBUTIONS.

6. ALSO REQUEST EMBASSY ASSIST BACKUS ALONG LINES REQUESTED BY ESSO EASTERN.

7. IF YOU SHOULD LEARN THAT GON IS POSTPONING OR CANCELLING CONFERENCE (REF C), IT OBVIOUSLY NOT NECESSARY TO CARRY OUT INSTRUCTIONS IN PARA 5 AT THIS TIME. IF CONFERENCE IS POSTPONED, ESSO EASTERN INFORMS US BACKUS WILL NOT VISIT NIAMEY NEXT WEEK. KISSINGER

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** URANIUM, EXPLORATION, FOREIGN INVESTMENT, DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 19 SEP 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** ElyME  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
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**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**To:** NIAMEY  
**Type:** TE  
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